raised by State owned enterprises backed by State Government guarantees. This is necessary in view of the high level of total outstanding debt and guarantees of most State Governments including Tamil Nadu. Bringing such borrowings within the descipline of Article 293(3) of the Constitution is a prudent step towards fiscal consolidation for which the Government of India requires the support of all the States.

DRF for backward districts

2122. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of Rs. 2,500 crore Development Reform Facility (DRF) to support the most Backward District and States;

(b) the quantum of funds disbursed; and

(c) the names of the districts benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) to (c) The Union Government in its Budget Estimates for 2002-03 have provided Rs. 2500 crore under the Development Reform Facility, for policy reforms in sectors which are constraining growth and development in the States. The guidelines of the facility are under formulation by Planning Commission.

Net bank credit to women

2123. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance propose to increase the level of net bank credit to women from 2 per cent to 5 per cent in three years;

(b) the details of schemes which will enable women to avail 5 per cent credit from financial institutions for the next three years;

(c) what is the projected coverage of women entrepreneurs through these programmes, State-wise; and

(d) the number of women's cells set up in various States to provide information and counselling for such projects?